



CITY OF BERWYN PREPARES FOR EMERGENCIES WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Berwyn, Illinois — When a crisis affects the City of Berwyn, Emergency Management officials must be able to reach residents instantly with warnings, information, and updates. In order to ensure that residents can be contacted quickly and effectively, the City has begun using Global Connect's Emergency Notification System, which gives them the ability to call thousands of residents, staff members, and volunteers within minutes.

"The Global Connect system will allow the Mayor, Chief of Police, Fire Chief or any other designated Emergency Management official to record a message in his or her own voice and send that message to every telephone number listed in the directory within a matter of minutes," explained Craig Bird, CEO and Founder of Global Connect. "Whether residents need to be informed of a water main break, fast-moving fire, approaching storm, or other crisis, the Global Connect Emergency Notification System is the most efficient way to reach them with the news."

The Global Connect Emergency Notification System uses Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) to send a message to a database of telephone numbers, email addresses, or fax numbers. The system offers a number of features that render it particularly useful during a crisis:

Instant Callback – Residents who need additional information or require special assistance from the City can make a return call to a designated telephone number with the press of a single key on their telephone keypad.

Customized Mapping Capability – The City can create a customized list of call recipients by selecting the area(s) affected by the emergency at hand. Global Connect will instantly develop the list of telephone numbers for residents in that area.

Remote Access and Deployment – Emergency Management officials can deploy a message from any location. Only a telephone is required to record and send a broadcast.

Real-Time Reporting – City officials can see immediately which residents have been reached by telephone, and which have received messages. The system will continue to call residents who have not been reached as frequently and as many times as desired.

"Many municipalities and school districts have already seen the benefits of the Global Connect Emergency Notification System," said Bird. "The speed, simplicity, and flexibility of this cost-effective system make it a natural choice for public entities."

All landline telephone numbers within the City of Berwyn will automatically be added into the database. Residents that wish to add their cell phone numbers or email addresses are encouraged to opt in by clicking on the Global Connect Emergency Notification System picture on the City's website www.berwyn-il.gov or www.berwynpolicedepartment.com which is the Police Department's website. During the process residents may also choose to receive automatic weather alerts. Residents may also call 708-749-6563 to opt in and leave their contact information.